



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION ESOPHAGEAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Esophageal cancer is increasingly common in the United States, as diagnoses have increased more than 400 percent in the past 20 years; and
- WHEREAS: Esophageal cancer is a disease of the esophageal tube running from the throat to the stomach, regularly resulting in death; and
- WHEREAS: The low survival rate associated with esophageal cancer is attributed to diagnoses in the advanced stages of the disease. Esophageal cancer kills one American every 36 minutes each day; and
- WHEREAS: Esophageal cancer is often discovered during advanced stages, but if discovered early, chances for recovery and survival are far better. Treatments for the disease include surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, laser therapy, and electrocoagulation; and
- WHEREAS: Esophageal cancer is among the deadliest cancers with fewer than one in five patients surviving five years; and
- WHEREAS: Esophageal cancer makes up approximately 1 percent of cancer diagnoses in the United States. Though there are many life factors related to the diagnoses of esophageal cancer, the disease is three to four times more common in men than women; and
- WHEREAS: Individuals suffering from gastroesophageal reflux disease pose a higher risk of developing esophageal cancer; and
- WHEREAS: Esophageal cancer can be a silent killer as patients are often unaware that heartburn, difficulty swallowing, coughing, voice hoarseness, throat soreness, or chest pain they experience may each be a reason to discuss screening with a medical care professional; and
- WHEREAS: During Esophageal Cancer Awareness Month, citizens across Georgia, as well as the nation, are encouraged to be aware of esophageal cancer, its symptoms, and early detection and treatment strategies in order to prevent and manage the disease; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim April 2018 as ESOPHAGEAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 1st day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF